



Felixstowe Public Meeting

A public meeting was held at Felixstowe Town Hall Tuesday 23 May at 1900 hrs.

PRESENT:

Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner

Tim Passmore (Police & Crime Commissioner), Sandra Graffham (Communications Manager) and Ellie Anthony (Business Administration Apprentice)

Suffolk Constabulary

Kerry Cutler (Superintendent, South), Inspector Andy Pursehouse (South East Locality Inspector).

POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER OVERVIEW

The PCC welcomed 37 members of the public to the meeting and made introductions. The PCC spoke briefly about the key elements of his role and current priorities. A copy of his handout will be attached to these notes for the record.

POLICING UPDATE

Inspector Andy Pursehouse introduced himself having recently taken over responsibility for the area and spoke about policing in the locality (a copy of his hand-out is available).

QUESTIONS ASKED AND SUBJECTS DISCUSSED

- Speeding – Garrison Lane

Tim agreed that speeding is a very important matter and that the driving standards need to be improved in Suffolk. The biggest group of offenders are men under the age of 25. Suffolk Constabulary and Suffolk County Council work together through the RoadSafe initiative. Tim encourages everyone to report any speeding issues regardless of whether there is video evidence.
<http://www.suffolk.police.uk/contact-us/report-something/dashboard-camera-report-form>

- HGV – Overtaking on the A14

A concern was raised about lorries overtaking each other on the A14 and taking a long time to do this. With this it would slow the rest of the traffic down as no one could overtake. There was the suggestion of banning lorries in over taking but Tim pointed out that as it was only a dual carriageway and used by agricultural vehicles it would be impractical for lorries to crawl along at 10mph

as they wouldn't be allowed to overtake. We do work with highways England although there isn't a lot that can be done without making it three lanes or re-classifying the whole road. There is nothing illegal as it stands so it would be more for Tim to talk to Highways England to see whether anything can be done.

- New arrangement at Felixstowe Police station – Can you walk in to report crime?

Inspector Pursehouse explained that there is an intercom outside to enable you to speak to a team member. Other options are to call either 999 if it is an emergency or otherwise 101. There is also the option of emailing us and then we can arrange a time to come and visit you.

- Gulpher Road/Langer Road – Parking Issues

Issues around parking in both Gulpher and Langer Road were discussed.

Concern was raised that many cars are parking on the pavements and people with pushchairs are struggling to get around them. Inspector Pursehouse said his PCSO's have issued over 375 parking tickets in efforts to resolve this problem. Superintendent Kerry Cutler mentioned that the Constabulary will be working closely with Suffolk Coastal District Council to try to resolve these issues.

There is work taking place on some information material to raise awareness of responsible parking.

- Lack of visible policing

Concerns were raised as people feel there is a lack of visible policing in the streets, who could be dealing with illegal parking, speeding, anti-social behaviour and to reassure residents. After a three year freeze in the recruitment lines Suffolk Police are recruiting police officers this year. We are focussing our resources and using intelligence led policing to target the highest demand areas, we continue to be as visible as we can in the community, examples are PCSO Hood who has been out in the community and issued 375 parking tickets since February. We can be contacted in a variety of ways such as our website, we will respond to request for service. We have started Operation Parkland which is a team of officers who are dedicated to target anti-social behaviour in the Southern area.

<https://www.suffolk.police.uk/>

- Break-ins – Street lighting

Concerns were voiced over the recent spate of break-ins which has left shop owners and staff afraid to walk home after dark which is not helped by the street lights being switched off at midnight. If we identify specific areas where street lights are needed then we could support this. Streets lights are owned

by the Council and so local Councillors can be contacted to support this concern.

- Youth Engagement

The Constabulary have received complaints of anti-social behaviour at the sea front. There are PCSOs who specialise in dealing with any youth related problems. A scheme is being worked on to have a mini bus situated along the seafront to give young people somewhere to congregate.

- *Speeding – Orwell Bridge*

July will see the end of the first year of speed reduction enforcement with analysis to follow. There has been a dramatic reduction in the number of drivers caught speeding since the start of the project. Any revenue through fines goes to the government and there is a small surplus from speed awareness courses which is ring-fenced for the improvement of road safety in Suffolk

The PCC thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 20:30 hrs.